

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 447 - SB 523**

March 22, 2015

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Defines “satisfactory academic progress” as a passing grade in at least three-fourths of the full unit subjects or their equivalency in which a student is enrolled at the conclusion of any grading period. Authorizes the Department of Safety to issue driver’s licenses to students who can present written proof that they are enrolled in a course leading to a high school equivalency test credential (HiSET) or have received a HiSET. Requires students who fail to maintain satisfactory academic progress to be considered out of compliance for the purposes of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3017 until they achieve satisfactory academic progress at the end of a subsequent grading period. Adds failure to enroll in a course leading to a HiSET credential to the list of items that, if beyond the control of the student and verified in writing by a parent or guardian, requires no notice to be sent to the Department of Safety. Changes, from 10 consecutive days or 15 days unexcused to five consecutive days or seven days unexcused, the number of absences that a student under the age of 18 may have before the Department of Safety is notified of such absences for the purposes of maintaining eligibility to carry or obtain a driver’s license. Students who go over the allowable limit shall have their license suspended or be ineligible to receive a license if they have not already obtained one.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumption:

- Based on information from the Department of Safety and the Comptroller, any net change in the number of licenses issued, suspended or denied as a result of this bill is estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding".

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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